

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF
THE NEW BARBARA DEER KUSS
SCIENCE CENTER AT
WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the upcoming September 19th dedication ceremony at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio of a new and exciting facility that will greatly enhance the educational opportunities at this great institution of higher learning in Ohio's 7th Congressional District.

I've lived in Springfield for most of my adult life and have seen Wittenberg University grow into one of the best liberal arts universities in Ohio. I have greatly enjoyed representing and working with the university.

The Barbara Deer Kuss Center will house the university's departments of biology, chemistry, physics, geology, mathematics and computer science. The building will also house programs in biochemistry, molecular biology, marine biology, health professions and environmental studies.

This \$23 million endeavor is Wittenberg's most ambitious capital improvement to date, and marks the most significant improvement to the university's science facilities since the original construction of Science Hall in 1965.

I was proud to have been able to help secure some of the funding to ensure that Wittenberg students and faculty have a safe environment to perform their research.

The design of this new facility reflects the changing view of scientific and academic research in that it includes many glass walls to make ongoing research projects more visible to people as they move through the building. Like the new Hollenbeck Hall on campus, the Kuss Center is designed to optimize interaction between students, faculty and the science disciplines.

One of the primary ways this is done is by the striking atrium, which connects the old and new parts of the building, allows natural light in and also lets visitors see what is happening on other floors.

The facility is also a worthy tribute to my long-time friends Barbara and Richard Kuss, who were instrumental in moving this project forward.

Richard Kuss has played a leadership role in each of Wittenberg's fund-raising efforts since 1952. He has served on the university board of directors and as president of its alumni association. He has received numerous awards and honors, including an honorary degree and the Medal of Honor from Wittenberg.

Barbara Deer Kuss served the Springfield community in many ways throughout her adult life. For 30 years she served as a volunteer at Community Hospital and was a past-president of its Women's Auxiliary. She also was a major donor to Community Hospital and a 12-year member of the board of directors.

Barbara also served on the boards of the Springfield Foundation, the Center for Sensory Motor Development, the Friends of Mercy St. John's Center, Clark Memorial Home Association and the Springfield YWCA and had honorary alumna status at Wittenberg University. This new facility will be a lasting tribute to the

many ways that Barbara helped to make Springfield a better community.

As the Member of Congress who represents Springfield and Wittenberg University in the U.S. House of Representatives, I again offer my congratulations on the completion of this important new educational facility. The Barbara Deer Kuss Science Center will be a new focal point of learning for students at Wittenberg University and the advanced facilities of this new structure will greatly assist their quest for scientific knowledge.

RECOGNIZING LAUREN DiSANO
FOR HER ACHIEVEMENT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lauren DiSano, who was selected to participate in the first-ever U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Health Fellows Environmental Health Fellows class. Ms. DiSano, a resident of Warwick, RI, earned a master's degree in Health Science in Environmental Health from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Ms. DiSano is one of only 10 public health professionals selected nationwide to work at an EPA research facility for a minimum of one year and address emerging public health needs from an environmental perspective. Ms. DiSano's focus will be Homeland Security projects dealing with public health and water utility issues. This opportunity will not only give Ms. DiSano a chance to make our country safer, but also to become a leader in her field. As a member of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, I am particularly interested in the work she will be doing and hope she will keep us updated as her fellowship progresses.

Mr. Speaker, I hope our colleagues will join me in congratulating Lauren DiSano for her achievement.

HEALTH CARE FOR VETERANS OF
PROJECT 112/PROJECT SHAD ACT
OF 2003

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, in this uncertain time, our nation is looking to the brave men and women of our armed forces. They have never hesitated in answering their nation's call and giving of their time and service. Our nation owes them a debt that we can never repay. That is why it is unconscionable that in the 1960s, our Department of Defense intentionally exposed U.S. military personnel to toxic chemicals as an experiment, without their knowledge or consent. In effect, they made our military personnel unwilling human guinea pigs.

I strongly support H.R. 2433, the Health Care for Veterans of Project 112/Project SHAD Act of 2003, which the House passed today. We cannot change what happened forty years ago. But now we can try to make it right. This legislation is an important first step

in requiring our government to make full disclosure about the tests conducted and the chemical agents to which our military personnel were exposed. H.R. 2433 will also make improvements to the retention and recruitment of health care professionals; provide additional pay for Saturday tours of duty for additional health care workers in the veterans' health administration; and increase coverage of employees of veterans' canteen services under additional employment laws. I urge my Senate colleagues to act quickly on this important legislation.

As a veteran myself, it saddens me to see how some of our nation's finest citizens are being treated. I believe our government should come clean, provide the information and provide medical treatment and compensation for the losses our military personnel suffered. We must address this tragedy and work to make sure nothing like this ever happens again.

SEPTEMBER 11TH
COMMEMORATION

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of the thousands of brave men and women lost on September 11th, the lives of the thousands more who survived, and the strength and love shown by the families, friends, loved ones, and communities left behind on that shocking, terrible day.

It's hard to believe that it was 2 years ago. It feels like yesterday, in some ways, that we sat transfixed before CNN, unable to believe that the World Trade Center was gone, the Pentagon burned, and that somehow a plane of courageous passengers over Pennsylvania had managed to turn the table on their hijackers. The losses still ache. It was only last week that the last firefighting family in New York City laid their son to rest.

In other ways, it feels like forever. Our sense of this world has changed, our duties have increased, and our vulnerabilities remain. As a Member of Congress, I feel a special and urgent responsibility to make sure we have better intelligence, more resources, and effective response plans in place. But I am optimistic. I have faith in America.

In my area, many of us know someone who was lost. But you didn't have to know someone to feel it. America's heart was broken that day, and in some ways we will never be the same. But, in an important way, America will never change.

The terrorists wanted, and still want, to break America's spirit. But that hasn't happened. Our shock has faded, and we've accepted a stark reality: we can never let down our guard in the fight against terrorism. Communities have drawn closer and grown stronger over the past 2 years; neighbors take the time to meet and thank fire fighters and police officers; people wait patiently in long airport screening lines; and parents stock up on bottled water and canned food.

America is the land of the free; it's the home of the brave. We're fighters—just look at our men and women in uniform, who are just outstanding—and we're survivors. Our Nation is united as we continue to strengthen our security, protect our people, and pursue those responsible for the attacks.

We've shown that we won't allow terrorists to destroy the values that make America great—we will protect and defend liberty, tolerance and democracy. There's no better national tribute to those who were lost than that.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Second Anniversary of the September 11 attacks.

This week we commemorate the Second Anniversary of the September 11 attacks. A day that will forever remain in our memories as we endured the loss of over 3,000 innocent people in New York, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania. Despite this tragedy we continue to press on rebuilding our communities and renewing our spirits.

I would like to share with you a poem written by one of my constituents and a dear friend, Ms. Danita Harris, news anchor for Good Morning Cleveland on WEWS News Channel 5 in Cleveland. It reads:

On September 11, 2001 . . .
our hearts were pierced by the loss of our fellow Americans in the terrorist attacks

On September 11, 2001 . . .
we held on to the one thing that stands when all else fails, our faith in God

On September 11, 2001 . . .
there was a rebirth, an awakening, a national acknowledgement of the power and love of Almighty God

On September 11, 2001 . . .
in the midst of mourning the loss of a mother, a father, a sister, a brother, someone found Jesus—a comforter, a friend, a saviour

On September 11, 2001 . . .
knees bowed down and tongues cried out
"HELP US GOD!"

On September 11, 2001 . . .
the salt of our tears fell on the earth giving our country a new flavor of freedom and pride

On September 11, 2001 . . .
hatred and ignorance showed its ugly face as terrorism penetrated America's front door

On September 11, 2001 . . .
we put aside our differences, our prejudices, our isms, and our schisms

On September 11, 2001 . . .
the only race was the human race, not connected by blood but united by spirit

On September 11, 2001 . . .
our voices sang God Bless America, but in our spirits we were all singing Amazing Grace

Because if it wasn't for God's grace
it could have been you
in that building

it could have been you
on that airplane
it could have been you.

May we remember those families who lost loved ones during this tragic event during this time and continue to renew our spirits.

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

HON. WAYNE T. GILCHREST

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Public Lands Day on September 20, 2003. On this day, volunteers around the nation will be lending their hands to our public lands—improving the nation's habitats, removing invasive species, building trails, planting trees, and contributing an invaluable service to the nation. This event promotes the stewardship of our publicly held natural and cultural resources.

To provide further information, I attach the enclosed statement.

VOLUNTEERS SPRUCE UP NATIONAL MALL
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2003

Volunteers around the nation will be lending their hands to our public lands on the 10th annual National Public Lands Day—Saturday, September 20, 2003. This is the largest nationwide effort to improve and enhance those places where Americans go for recreation and to enjoy the outdoors. It is expected that around 80,000 volunteers will be working at 500 locations and in every state.

This year the focus is on improving and preserving the nation's habitats—the forests, mountains, prairies, plains, rivers, wetlands, and urban streams that are home to a rich diversity of animals, plants and birds. Many of the projects will involve invasives, a growing threat to our public lands. Volunteers will also repair trails, build bridges, plant trees, protect cultural sites, restore aging facilities and much more.

Here in our nation's capital volunteers will be working from one end of The National Mall to the other—the Lincoln Memorial to the Ulysses S. Grant Memorial. Projects include repairing the walkway around Constitution Gardens; trimming cherry trees around the Tidal Basin; painting benches and railings at Hains Point; and weeding, planting and mulching flowerbeds at the George Mason Monument, Department of the Interior and the Benjamin Banneker Park. Kids will build bat houses for a National Park Service research project and help install duck ramps in the lake at Constitution Gardens.

This is a unique opportunity for Members and staffs to join others who are giving up a Saturday to care for our special place, The National Mall.

National Public Lands Day is a project of the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation in partnership with nine federal agencies, numerous state land authorities and private organizations. Toy-

ota Motor Sales USA is the national corporate sponsor.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, today marks the second year since one of the most devastating attacks occurred on United States soil in our history.

Many of us remember exactly where we were when we first received news of the two planes flying into the World Trade Center complex in the borough of Manhattan.

We also remember the unimaginably horrible sight of both towers crashing downward, and the residents of New York running for their very lives through the streets and over bridges leading away from the site.

On this day, we also remember the dedicated workers of the Pentagon who perished, and the brave men and women of United flight 93, who sacrificed their own lives to prevent another horrific incident.

This devastating act of terrorism has affected the lives of every single American living in this country today.

Thousands of Americans lost their lives on September 11. These were ordinary, hard working people, who had no knowledge that they would be on the front lines of a cowardly act that would forever represent a new battle, the "war against terrorism."

Mr. Speaker, America is a special place. Despite differences in race, culture, creed, and faith, we hold certain ideals close. Americans believe the words of the patriots who met at the Second Continental Congress, "that certain truths are selfevident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."

Americans believe that all people, in the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., "will bow before the altars of God and be crowned triumphant over war and bloodshed, and nonviolent redemptive goodwill will proclaim the rule of the land."

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Americans believe that we are one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mr. Speaker, the war against terrorism continues to this day, but the resolve and spirit of the American people can never be defeated, our thirst for peace and democracy never quenched.

On this day, let us remember the victims, their families, and all who were touched by the tragic events of 2 years ago. God bless them all, and God bless America.